

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An active material for a battery anode, said material consists of comprising:

(1) zinc for major substance with lead virtually and virtually contains no lead; and

(2) 0.01 percent by mass or more and 0.7 percent by mass or less of bismuth,

or

(1) zinc for major substance without lead virtually;

(2) 0.01 percent by mass or more and 0.7 percent by mass or less of bismuth; and

(3) one selected from 0.0003 percent by mass or more and 0.03 percent by mass or

less of magnesium and 0.0001 percent by mass or more and 0.05 percent by mass

or less of one or more selected from zirconium, strontium, barium, said active

material being processed to be a zinc sheet or a zinc can for anode in a range of

more than 99 degrees Centigrade to less than 271 degrees Centigrade, an average

grain diameter of said zinc sheet and said zinc can being in a range of more than

7.8 to 25.1 μm said material which a piece of 10 cm^2 made from decreases 3.8 mg

of its weight or less due to corrosion after being laid still in a constant temperature

water chamber filled with the electrolyte of which concentration is nickel 2.9 ppm,

cobalt 0.40 ppm, and copper 0.86 ppm for 66 hours in a temperature of 45 degree

Centigrade.

Claims 2-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (New): The active material according to claim 1, purity of said zinc being 99.99wt% or more.

Claim 12 (New): The active material according to claim 1, a piece of 10 cm² (width times length) and 0.3 to 0.5 mm in thickness of said active material being corroded and decreasing in mass by 3.9 mg or less in an electrolyte containing nickel 2.9 ppm, cobalt 0.40 ppm, and copper 0.86 ppm for 66 hours in a temperature of 45 degree Centigrade.

Claim 13 (New): The active material according to claim 1, 11, or 12, said processing temperature being in a range of 120 degree Centigrade to 210 degree Centigrade.

Claim 14 (New): A manganese dry battery using said zinc sheet or said zinc can according to claim 1.

Claim 15 (New): The manganese dry battery according to claim 14, further comprising:

I: metallographic grain size average in the area of inside wall of anode can within 200 μm from the side contacting the separator,

O: metallographic grain size average in the area of outside wall of anode can within 200 μm from the side contacting the insulator cover tube,

a ratio of said I and said O (O/I) being in the range of 1.04 to 1.41.

Claim 16 (New): A manufacturing method of a zinc sheet or a zinc can for a battery anode comprising:

processing an active material to be a zinc sheet or a zinc can for anode in a range of more than 99 degree Centigrade to less than 271 degree Centigrade,

producing an average grain diameter of said zinc sheet and said zinc can in a range of 7.8 to 25.1 μm

using an active material for battery anode comprising

- (1) zinc for major substance without lead virtually; and
- (2) 0.01 percent by mass or more and 0.7 percent by mass or less of bismuth,

or

- (1) zinc for major substance without lead virtually;
- (2) 0.01 percent by mass or more and 0.7 percent by mass or less of bismuth;

and

- (3) one selected from 0.0003 percent by mass or more and 0.03 percent by mass or less of magnesium and 0.001 percent by mass or more and 0.05 percent by mass or less of one or more selected from zirconium, strontium, barium.

Claim 17 (New): A manufacturing method of a manganese dry battery using a zinc sheet or a zinc can for a battery anode comprising:

processing an active material to be a zinc sheet or a zinc can for anode in a range of more than 99 degree Centigrade to less than 271 degree Centigrade;

producing an average grain diameter of said zinc sheet and said zinc can in a range of 7.8 to 25.1 μm ; and

using an active material for battery anode comprising

- (1) zinc for major substance without lead virtually; and
- (2) 0.01 percent by mass or more and 0.7 percent by mass or less of bismuth,

or

- (1) zinc for major substance without lead virtually;
- (2) 0.01 percent by mass or more and 0.7 percent by mass or less of bismuth;

and

(3) one selected from 0.0003 percent by mass or more and 0.03 percent by mass or less of magnesium and 0.001 percent by mass or more and 0.05 percent by mass or less of one or more selected from zirconium, strontium, barium.